Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : When the private contractors were given the contract for the manufacture of these concrete poles, were not specifications given to them so that the quality of the poles may be maintained?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : The poles to be supplied have more or less to be on the same standard as the poles manufactured by the department. The specifications must have been given to them.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : I am given to understand that the poles are manufactured by the department by what is called the vibratory method. That is, in the process of manufacturing all these concrete posts, the whole thing is vibrated by the machine so that the air bubbles may not be contained in the concrete. But our contractors are not conforming themselves to this specification, which the department itself follows in the manufacture of these concrete posts.

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : I have no such complaint.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : May I request the Hon. Minister to find out whether the contractor has ever told the department that he was not in a position to vibrate the poles which he manufactures?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : I would like the hon. Member to give this complaint to me in writing. I shall then attend to it.

* 284 *Q*.—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state, with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 106 on 3rd March 1961—

(*a*) the total amount of money deposited in the Madras State Electricity Board by the consumers of electricity as on 1st March 1961;

(*b*) the total amount of loan raised from the public by the Electricity Board as on 1st March 1961; and

(*c*) the amount of loan raised from the Government by the Electricity Board as on 1st March 1961?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) Rs. 294·97 lakhs.

(*b*) Rs. 549·94 lakhs.

(*c*) Rs. 102·81 crores.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : The money that has been received by the department from the consumers by way of deposit goes to several crores of rupees, and the interest that is given to them is less than three per cent. But the Government are collecting more than four per cent for the amount that has been lent to the department. Our money it appears is not worth.

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : Not that it is not worth. We receive money for the first category from the consumers for the

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specific service done to the consumers as such. We borrow money for expansion purposes. So, I do not think there is any big difference between the rates.

Physically handicapped persons

* 285 *Q*.—Sri L. S. KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state— 8–0 p.m.

(*a*) whether any instructions have been received from the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, about the placement of physically handicapped persons in Government services; and

(*b*) if so, what they are and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) No specific instructions have been received from the Government of India, Ministry of Labour, about the placement of handicapped persons in Government services. Instructions have, however, been received relating generally to the Employment Exchange procedure for the registration, submission and placement of physically handicapped persons.

(*b*) The main points in the instructions issued are that the physically handicapped persons should be categorised into groups such as blind, deaf, deaf-mutes, etc., their degree of employability assessed, that special contacts should be established with employers for the submission of these candidates and that after placing them, follow-up action should be taken to ensure that the placement of candidates is satisfactory.

On receipt of these instructions, the Director of Employment, Madras, has instructed all Employment Offices in the State to devote personal attention and to take special interest and steps in placing as many physically handicapped persons as possible.

Sri L. S. KARAYALAR : May I know how many Gazetted Officers there are in Government service who are physically handicapped?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : This relates only to placement in industrial employment. As I said, there are no instructions about employing these persons in Government service.

Sri M. ETHIRAJALU : அங்க ஈனம் உள்ளவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது வேலை கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று வேலை தேடித்தரும் ஸ்தாபனத்திற்குத் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா ?

The Hon. Sri R VENKATARAMAN : தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதற்கு ஆங்காங்கு இருக்கக்கூடிய எம்ப்ளாய்மெண்ட் ஆபீசர்கள் தாங்களே நேரிடையாக இதில் முயற்சி எடுத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றுகூட சொல்லியிருக்கிறது.